

## GALA NIGHT 2022

**By MERREDIN SHIRE**

The Merredin CBD came alive on Thursday, 15 December for the towns annual Gala Night with boot scooting, late night shopping and a visit from Santa!

For Wheatbelt children far from any snow or ice, the pop-up ice-skating rink proudly sponsored by the Road Safety Commission proved to be a very popular new attraction and challenge. There was plenty of sliding going on as they took on the challenge of staying upright on their blades.

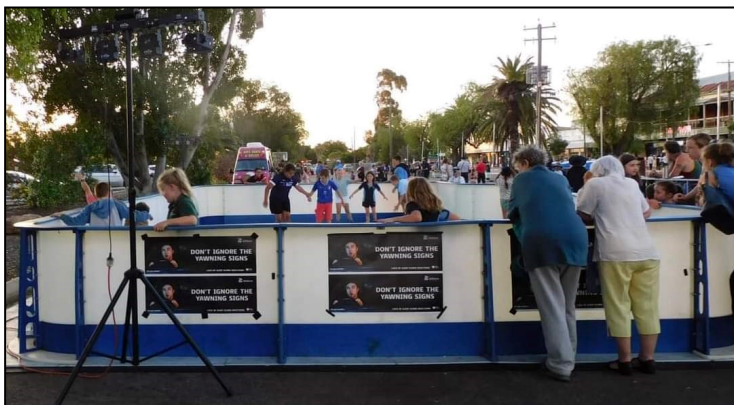
As always, the queue was long for the ever-popular face painting stall, while just across the road adults were able to

enjoy some refreshments and a harvest catch up in the pop-up bar area. The Blue Light Silent Disco was also a popular activity choice, with a roomful of neon and lots of dancing.

The Shire of Merredin would like to thank all the stallholders, community volunteers, and committee members that make this event possible each and every year.

Thank you also to the 21 local business who donated a prize to the very popular 'Shop Local' raffle, which was drawn on the night by Shire President Mark McKenzie.

We look forward to seeing you all again at Gala Night 2023!



★★★★ HOTEL ★★★★★

# CALIFORNIA

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# Australia Day Breakfast

**THURSDAY 26TH JANUARY 2023**



Merredin Community Resource Centre  
Cnr Queen & Barrack Street, Merredin

Free Aussie breakfast served from 8am to 9am

Presentations at 9am for Citizen of the Year Awards  
and 2023 Eric Hind Scholarship winner



Department of  
Primary Industries and  
Regional Development

# CONTENTS

COVID 19 Statistics .....3  
 Merredin College ..... 4 & 5  
 My Thoughts .....6  
 Library Musings .....9  
 From the History Room.....9  
 Trades .....12  
 Classifieds .....15  
 Horoscopes .....15  
 Astronomy .....16  
 CRC Community Calendar .....18



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**Content/production**  
 Amanda Cash  
 administration3@merredincrc.com

**Advertising**  
 administration4@merredincrc.com  
 admministration2@merredincrc.com

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[www.phoenixnews.com.au](http://www.phoenixnews.com.au)

## The Phoenix Prices NEW REDUCED RATES as @ July 2022

<b>Prime Advertising</b>	
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Ears	\$30
Front inside full	\$180
Back inside full	\$180
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Quarter	\$30
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Full	\$120
<b>Classies (b/w)</b>	
General lineage	50c per word
<b>Display per cm</b>	
Public Notice	\$10
Employment	\$5
<b>Trades</b>	
12 editions (each)	\$15
6 editions (each)	\$20
3 editions (each)	\$25
<b>Artwork</b>	
Fee	\$30

### The Phoenix

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- IGA
- Inspire
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- Merredin CRC
- Merredin Flowers & Gifts
- Merredin Harvest
- Merredin Swimming Pool
- Mukinbudin Café
- Nextra Newsagency
- Puma Roadhouse
- Two Dogs Home Hardware
- Wild Poppy Café

Thankyou to these businesses for their support for The Phoenix and Merredin Community Resource Centre

### ONLINE SUBSCRIPTIONS

Email [administration2@merredincrc.com](mailto:administration2@merredincrc.com)

12 or 24 editions

## COVID-19

### COVID-19 WA Statistics

As at 10 January 2023  
 Tested 4,688,193  
 Confirmed Cases 1,270,544  
 Recovered 1,266,069  
 Deaths 856  
 Active cases in WA 3,619  
 Vaccinations—Australia  
 Vaccinations—22,235,240  
 Fully vaccinated—21,655,301  
 Booster—14,328,433

### COVID-19 Australian Statistics

WA—Cases 1.27M—Deaths 856  
 ACT—Cases 228K —Deaths 142  
 NSW—Cases 3.84M—Deaths 5,881  
 NT—Cases 103K—Deaths 87  
 QLD—Cases 1.76M—Deaths 2,449  
 SA—Cases 866K—Deaths 1,170  
 TAS—Cases 282K—Deaths 229  
 VIC—Cases 2.85M—Deaths 6,535

We're all  
 in this  
*together.*

## FREE Reusable Masks at the Merredin CRC!

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Department of  
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Regional Development  
GOVERNMENT OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

# YEAR 9 CAMP

On Monday 5 December, a bus load of Year 9s and three teachers headed off on a journey to Albany for the annual Year 9 camp.

Upon arriving they visited the Gap and climbed stony hill lookout.

That night they went bowling and met a local celebrity, Bruce the Bull.

Tuesday was an early start visiting the Historic Whaling Station, followed by the

National ANZAC Centre where they participated in guided tours and learned about their past as both hunters and soldiers.

Wednesday morning was a lot of walking, going to the Museum of the Great Southern, the Convict Gaol and Patrick Taylor's Cottage.

They got to rest their feet that afternoon on a 3-hour cruise around Princess Harbour.

Thursday, they travelled to Walpole to do the Tree Top

Walk and see the Valley of the Giants, but not before stopping for lunch at Denmark Animal Farm and seeing all the cute and fluffy creatures.

Friday was the trip home, another long ride, but enjoyed by all.



# YEAR 6 TRANSITION

As another school year closes, there is always one very important event that takes place and sets the tone for the following school year - Year 6 transition.

Transition is a highly anticipated event that marks the midway point for the school years.

It is a bittersweet moment - we farewell close friends and the familiarity of primary school and head into the unknown.

Some students enthusiastically await this new chapter whilst others are more reserved and cautious about what awaits them.

Merredin College changed our transition program this year by offering two full days and an overnight stay for students who

would be staying at the Residential College.

The extended transition allowed students to fully immerse themselves in all aspects of high school routines and for our boarders, gave them a chance to experience a night away from home.

The two days involved an Amazing Race around Merredin College, mini lessons in key subjects and an opportunity to play sport in our newly refurbished gym.

The 2023 Year 7 students enthusiastically engaged in the program and new friendships were formed.

Our high school team was incredibly impressed with the enthusiasm and team spirit of

our new students and look forward to a fantastic 2023.

The school year was brought to a close with our annual Climbing the Stairs ceremony.

The Year 6 students were farewelled from the primary campus and enthusiastically welcomed into the high school ready to start Year 7 in 2023.



# MERRYDIN 2022

MerryDin 2022 was a wonderful evening celebrating our students and their achievements throughout the year.

The theme this year was 'Aussie Legends' – with classes selecting items to celebrate all things Aussie with music and dance.

Our Choir, led by Mrs Adamson kicked off the evening singing 'Absolutely Everybody' by Vanessa Amarosi.

We all remember those jingles that stay with us all of our lives, and the next item by our Kindy students reminisced all of those iconic adverts – 'Slip, slop, Slap', 'Louie the Fly', 'Happy Little Vegemites', 'I love Aeroplane Jelly' and Cottee's – 'My Dad Picks the Fruit'. The audience seemed to enjoy singing along with the antics of our littlest people in the college.

Next was the Pre-primary and Pre-primary/Year 1 with their rendition of 'Come on Aussie' another classic song from the 70s.

Next, we saw Merv Hughes take to the field to get the audience revved up for that football classic, 'Up there Cazaly',

performed by the Year 1/2 and Year 2/3 classes – there was lots of jumping for marks throughout!

The Year 3/4 class were next, entering the stage to perform Kylie Minogue's 'Locomotion'. There was lots of movement and great choreography with this number.

The 70s theme continued with the Year 4/5 class who were 'Playing to Win'. This number certainly had a big jazz hands finish.

Our final two numbers were performed by the Year 5/6 classes. Firstly "It's a Long Way to the Top", a very popular song from the Aussie Band called AC/DC. Our very clever Miss Grinsell, who sadly couldn't attend, re-wrote all the words to fit it to her class – there was much enthusiasm throughout.

Mr Howieson's class then got their rock on with another classic 70s song 'Eagle Rock'.

Next was the presentation part of the night where we recognised all of our students' academic endeavour and Citizenship and then we welcomed in our new student leaders for 2023.

The final student performance for the evening followed, the community song, 'Shout'. Our whole school jumped up to perform and entertain for their families.

The final act of the evening was the much-anticipated Staff Act – 'The Legends of Merredin College' who rocked out to AC/DC and got the audience involved with their antics.

It was a lovely night, and it was wonderful to see all of our families there joining us in the quad.

A huge shout out to Mr James and Mr Howieson – responsible



for sound and lighting; Mr Postans and Mr O'Neill for all their muscles during set up; to Mrs Adamson, who brings her musical flair to the concert; and all of the staff and students who worked so hard in the lead up to ensure our audience was entertained.



# Court Report

14 November 2022

**Northam Courthouse**

Jonathan Papertalk appeared on the charge of unlawfully assault and thereby did bodily harm with circumstances of aggravation. He was remanded to appear in Merredin on 30th November 2022.

15 November 2022

**Central Law Courts**

Benjamin Pawlow appeared on charges of damaging property and threatened to kill. He was remanded to appear in Perth on 28th November 2022.

21 November 2022

**Northam Courthouse**

Daniel Horan appeared on charges of breach of protective bail conditions, possessed drug paraphernalia in or on which there was a prohibited drug or plant, possess a prohibited drug or plant, possess a prohibited drug (Methylamphetamine), two counts of breached a family violence restraining order and two counts of without lawful excuse trespassed on a place. He was remanded to appear in Northam on 24 January 2023.

5 January 2023

**Merredin Courthouse**

Joshua Travell appeared on the charge of Bac. Exceeds .000. He was remanded to appear in Midland on 28 February 2023.

Monalisa Takiabu appeared on the charges of careless driving, exceed speed limit between 20 and 29km/h and two counts of no authority to drive (never held). They were remanded to appear in Kalgoorlie on 12 January 2023.

Trephina Te Rito appeared on the charges of exceed speed limit between 20 and 29km/h, no authority to drive (disqualified from holding or obtaining) and provided false or misleading personal details. They were remanded to appear in Rockingham on 6 February 2023.

Keith Roberts appeared on the charges of possess a prohibited drug (Methylamphetamine) and possessed drug paraphernalia in or on which there was a prohibited drug or plant. He was remanded to appear in Merredin on 1 February 2023.

## SURVIVING TRAUMA

Born on Christmas Eve 1958 in the back seat of a car, on Cronulla Street, Cronulla, Sydney, enroute to the Sutherland Distract Hospital. I was 8 weeks premature, two and half pounds with a hole in my heart, respiratory failure, and a double hernia. I spent the first few months in a humidicrib.

I headlined a Sydney newspaper as a "miracle baby". That was the first of four near fatal events.

Trauma is a result of an event or circumstances sometimes out of our control, which may have life long effects on the victims. The most impact on victims may vary dramatically, depending on the severity of the event, the follow up treatment, past experiences, upbringing, lifestyle, financial situation, mental health, and the list of factors go on.

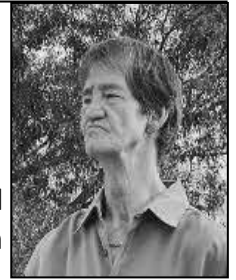
Some people seek counselling while others seek self help treatments such as alcohol, drugs, time out of work and other activities, isolation which may, in some cases, be more harmful in the long term.

There are a variety of events which may become traumatic for victims such as motor vehicle accidents, the death of a family member or friend, suicide, domestic violence, breaking down of marriages/partnerships, and family.

In my case a near fatal motor vehicle accident in 1991, which resulted in injuries with the severity to have life long, life changing outcomes. As a "Driving Tired" shift worker enroute to work for an afternoon shift, I allegedly fell asleep behind the wheel, also known as a microsleep, and took out a lamp post head on.

I woke in Royal Perth Hospital 10 days later. I had multiple head injuries including blindness in one eye, along with other and internal injuries. A social worker visited me in the ward

# My Thoughts



**Paul Freeman**

and concluded my progress was good and did not require further counselling.

Two years and nine reconstruction surgeries later, followed by other complications arising from the accident a few years later requiring more surgery.

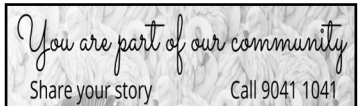
It had a huge impact on my sons, family, friends, and myself. A lot of after effects are not obvious for some time but many years later. I turned to alcohol as self-medication and a few years off work once all surgeries were completed.

P.T.S.D. is a treatable condition, but for a lot of people, it can last a lifetime. There are people who never recover from traumatic events who spend a lifetime in and out of institutions or in worst case scenario's, become permanently institutionalized.

It's been almost 32 years since my accident. There are constant reminders, such as the recent Kondinin family accident, driving tired commercials, as well as my road safety presentations which was created as a high impact warning for all road users about the consequences of "Driving Tired".

Traumatic events can be overcome with the right treatment, support from family and friends and a lot of healing time. For me, I am working, driving, remarried, travelled the world and living as normal a lifestyle as possible. All of this, since after the accident.

"There is life after Traumatic events."



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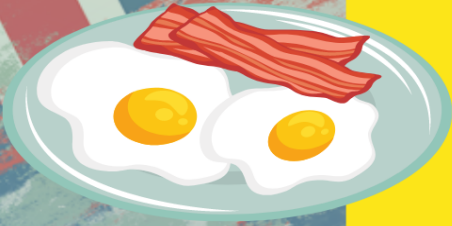
Access your bushfire plan anytime - even without an internet connection.

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

# AUSTRALIA DAY

## 26TH JANUARY 2023



## BREAKFAST

 **MERREDIN COMMUNITY  
RESOURCE CENTRE**

Free breakfast served from 8am-9am  
Presentations from 9am for the Citizen  
of the Year Awards + 2023 Eric Hind  
Scholarship winner.

## POOL PARTY

 **MERREDIN DISTRICT OLYMPIC POOL**

Free entry 12pm-6pm  
Free BBQ midday-1.30pm  
New inflatables, games and more!



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# MERREDIN EMERGENCY SERVICES CHRISTMAS PARADE

## By MERREDIN POLICE

Merredin Police had a blast co-hosting the Emergency Services Parade/Santa Lolly Run.

Thanks to Merredin VFRS, SJA, SES, Merredin Military Museum and Bencubbin Police for making it such a special afternoon!

Lights, sirens, and lollies throughout Merredin. Thank

you to Merredin Police for organising the convoy of emergency services and historic military vehicles to deliver delicious goodies around town.

The Merredin SES crew loved being involved and putting a smile on the kids' faces.

Also, a special thanks to Go Mad for helping make our SES Troop Carriers sparkle with tinsel and Christmas joy.



**THE MERRITTVILLE RETIREMENT VILLAGE**

**INVITES YOU TO A SERIES OF THREE TRIPS AND FALLS WORKSHOPS**

Presented by Rain Rodenburg  
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**10AM, WEDNESDAYS**  
**1ST, 8TH AND 15TH FEBRUARY 2023**  
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**A FREE MORNING TEA WILL FOLLOW EACH WORKSHOP**

For catering purposes please call or text the Merrittville phone to RSVP 0459 027 862

**January**

**Combined Churches Services**

Sunday 1st January 10:30 am St Mary's Catholic Church

Saturday 7th January 11:00 am Seventh-day Adventist Church

Sunday 15th January 10:00 am All Saints Anglican Church

Sunday 22nd January 10:00 am Church of Christ

Sunday 29th January 9:00am Uniting Church

**TOGETHER in CHRIST!**

**Merredin Churches Fraternal**



# Library Musings

**By MERREDIN LIBRARY**

Well, a new year has begun. Staff at the Merredin Library hope you had a happy and safe break and that you are looking forward to a better and brighter year.

This year the staff at the Merredin Library will be trying out some new ideas to entice you back to the library.

**Photographic display**

2023 is the 120th year since the opening of the Golden Pipeline. To commemorate the event the Merredin Library is displaying some of its photographs, including some that are rarely seen.

Included in the display are snippets of information including why the scheme was required, when wooden pipes

were used (not when you think), Mundaring Weir water levels and more.

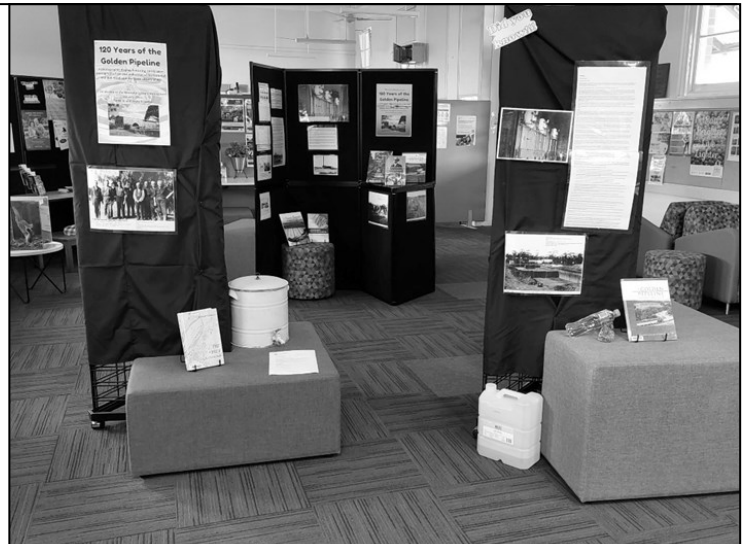
This display will be on show for the whole of January.

The next displays will be weddings, including several real wedding dresses from Merredin's past.

**Library Hours for January**

The Merredin Library is on reduced hours throughout January. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday the Library is open from 10am to 2pm, Wednesday from 1pm to 5pm and Saturday morning from 10am to 12noon.

Remember if you can't find what you are looking for, ask the friendly library staff. We are always happy to help. See you soon.



## From the History Room

**By MERREDIN LIBRARY**

The following snippets appeared in the local JANUARY newspapers of the time.

19th, 1933: Advertisement for Central Toilet Coy. For all medical rubber goods. Our booklet of information and prices posted under plain sealed cover.

7th, 1937: A serious fire at Bruce Rock this morning totally destroyed the premises of Mr. D. Redfern, saddler, Lonsdale's Buildings and the vacant shop recently occupied by Mettam's Agency. The Commonwealth Bank was in danger, but willing workers prevented the fire getting there.

15th, 1942: To make milk deliveries easier, clients are requested to place their jugs or billies on the front verandah or fence to save time due to shortage of labour.

27th, 1949: Prune Spread. Soak 1lb prunes then stew till tender in a little water. Drain well, press through a sieve. Mix in

2/3rds tablespoon of cake crumbs, tsp. of mixed spice and a squeeze of lemon. Place in jar.

27th, 1949: Last Saturday, residents in Merredin had the opportunity to inspect the new Australian made motor car, the Holden.

26th, 1950: Something unique in the history of Merredin will be a display by a flight of Mustang aircraft which will carry out formation flying during the Labour Day Jubilee Sports.

19th, 1966: Peter's Ice Cream (WA) Ltd. began operations at a new distribution centre in Bates Street on Monday. Mr. Dennis Murphy, a Merredin builder, built the cream brick building.

22nd, 1969: Vacation swimming classes at Merredin attracted a record enrolment this year, 454 being coached as against 417 in 1968.

14th, 1970: Merredin Police will have its new breath analysing set within a few days.

**MERREDIN CRC**

# MARKETS

**FRIDAY EVENING**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023**  
**3.30pm to 6.30pm**

**On the shady lawns of the Merredin CRC**  
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# STUDENT PLACEMENT IN THE WHEATBELT

By MY HEALTHY WHEATBELT

We love playing a part in student's education and showing them the best parts about working in country WA.

Eli just finished his eight-week Occupational Therapy (OT) student placement at Eastern Wheatbelt Primary Health Service. Here's his story:

"Eight weeks passed by like a whirlwind and it has left me feeling equipped and challenged.

"The OT team at Merredin encouraged me every step of the way, giving me multiple opportunities to practice, and

time to learn.

"Practicing in this generalist role allowed me to gain confidence in working with clients and served to guide my future practice. It was an absolute joy to be a part of the team."

As well as the amazing team, having a daily coffee van right at his doorstep and exploring the neighbouring towns was a bonus according to Eli.

If you too want to work in a supportive, dynamic and passionate team, while exploring country WA check out [jobs.wa.gov.au](http://jobs.wa.gov.au) to join us today!



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Merredin Community Resource Centre

Bailiwick Legal.

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Bailiwick Legal is a commercial law firm specialising in agriculture and tourism. We can assist with matters of litigation, dispute resolution, employment & workplace, property law, settlements, mining & access, and wills & estates.

We will be in Merredin at Merredin Community Resource Centre, 110 Barrack Street, on the following dates between 9.30am - 3.30pm:

- 16 MARCH 2023**
- 11 MAY 2023**
- 6 JULY 2023**

To book a free 20-minute consultation please email [evelyn@bailiwicklegal.com.au](mailto:evelyn@bailiwicklegal.com.au) or call 9321 5451

[www.bailiwicklegal.com.au](http://www.bailiwicklegal.com.au)

## Tales from the Train

*A modern take on travelling by train*

By LADY RANTHAM

This morning my fellow commuters and I were treated to the ride of a lifetime from a (presumably) new driver, who hasn't worked out the critical speed for a 6-car, heavily-laden voyage of the damned.

In this case, the train rocks wildly from side to side, wagging the occupants with gay abandon from east to west with no regard for personal safety, the balance point of high heels, the squeaking of sneaker soles on seat-backs or the tidal effects on water-bottles and coffees throughout the carriage.

Being a seasoned commuter, I braced myself against the window, and admired the cabaret of people trying to read, trying to write, trying to operate a smartphone, trying to digest and one over-ambitious suit, trying to manage a briefcase, a laptop, a lever arch file and a coffee. They tried. They failed.

They paused, waiting for the quaking to pass. It passeth not.

I was lucky enough to be facing the over-ambitious, but underprepared accountant, watching as the coffee was industriously working its way out of his grip as his attention was focussed on the laptop, which was making a spirited bid for freedom, seeking the liberation of the floor, where a laptop could live a wild and valiant existence, scuttling about and delivering mild electric shocks to unwary bare ankles.

Disaster was averted when his mascara-wielding neighbour steadied the impending cascade, allowing him to regain control and reign in his equipment, so it once again became a LAPtop.

Disembarking, or more specifically, de-training onto the station platform at Perth, there was slight weaving and some mild seasickness, but that passed too quickly to take the day off, especially as that would mean catching another train!

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(\*subject to availability and customer needs)



## Driving tired nearly cost me my life.

Over 30 years later, I still live with the consequences of my road accident. But perhaps most painful to me was seeing my two young sons traumatised by my facial injuries and disfigurement.

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### Fuel Tanker Driver - Merredin Depot

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Based in Merredin you will be a key team member, delivering from depots to rural and commercial customers. You will be working Monday to Friday on day shift with occasional weekend work.

**You will have;**

- HC licence and DG Licence and ideally a Safe Loading Passport (SLP).
- Working knowledge of AS/NZS 2809.3, AS/NZS 1596 and AS/NZS 3788
- A clean driving record and criminal record check and medical (including Drug & Alcohol) are requirement for the successful candidate.

We welcome applicants from diverse backgrounds, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply.

Apply today by emailing Brendan at [bwaight@libertyoil.com.au](mailto:bwaight@libertyoil.com.au) or better still you can call Brendan on 0427 368 758 to better understand the role and how it fits into his team

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CWA of WA (INC) - C10240441

Merredin College P&C Association - C10349464

Merredin Community Garden Group Inc. (MCGG) - C10358700

Merredin Community Resource Centre - C10242783

Merredin Districts Lawn Tennis - C10322072

Merredin Hockey Club - C10330862

Merredin Museum & Historical Society Inc. - C10681143

Merredin Railway Tennis Club - C10336486

Merredin Repertory Club - C1032349

Merredin Show Inc. - C10360791

Nangeenan Hall - C10481734

Parnana Pikurtu Wildlife Sanctuary - C1035338

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## Horoscopes



**ARIES 21 March-19 April**  
Drive for success your career path is on the right path. Look at your past successes.



**TAURUS 20 April-26 May**  
With elevated intuition and luck you will succeed. It is a great time to focus on your hopes.



**GEMINI 21 May-20 June**  
It is time to cut ties with all negativities, they are not healthy and will not serve you at all.



**CANCER 21 June-22 July**  
Love is in the air cancers, so get those dating apps going, only if you are ready though.



**LEO 23 July-22 August**  
Drink less coffee and get more sleep, it will gladly help your health.



**VIRGO 23 August-22 September**  
Creativity is the key this year, your time is valuable, and art is the key to your heart.



**LIBRA 23 September-22 October**  
Spend your energy on healing yourself.



**SCORPIO 23 October-21 November**  
Its time to read your strange dream.



**SAGITTARIUS 22 November-21 December**  
Money, make it work for you, keep to your budget, and try and put some savings aside.



**CAPRICORN 22 December-19 January**  
It is time to find new opportunities.



**AQUARIUS 20 January-18 February**  
You can do anything when you put your mind to it.



**PISCES 19 February-20 March**  
Its time to hold your head up high- whatever will be, will be. Just enjoy life.

## WATCHING THE FIRMAMENT 12TH-25TH JANUARY 2023

By PETER BARRETT

Welcome back to Watching The Firmament for 2023, where Wheatbelt Telescope Fun is still the name of the game.

I'll be doing my best to help you understand what's going on up there when you lie back in your outdoor recliner on a cool summer evening and take in the vast beauty of Space.

I'll be trying to tempt you into staying up later to catch a glimpse of after-midnight celestial action, and I'll even try to convince you that getting up before dawn is visually well worth the effort.

2023 promises to be a fantastic astronomical year for West Australians, with a once-in-a-lifetime Total Solar Eclipse in April, and the development of the Square Kilometre Array gathering pace.

Astrotourism opportunities here in the Wheatbelt are coming more and more to the forefront as people become more aware of the world-class beauty of our dark dark night skies.

This fortnight is your last chance to see Saturn for about six months as it begins to approach the sun.

Venus is getting conspicuous in

the evening twilight. On the 23rd and 24th the crescent Moon, Venus and Saturn will make a very attractive conjunction low in the West after sunset.

Mars now dominates the Northern sky near the Pleiades. The sun is steadily becoming more active as sunspot cycle 25 gathers momentum.

The Xmas break saw a couple of X-class flares and there was a little radio chaos as the resulting X-rays charged up the ionosphere. Commercial services dread these outbursts, but amateurs love the

unpredictable contact opportunities and will spend all night chasing them. Expect more of it.

Watch the Bureau of Meteorology Aurora webpage for the chance to capture some colours in the Southern sky.

Better still, why not join the WTF Facebook group? I try to keep the page updated with news and predictions, and it's a great place to share your pictures of the sky. Don't be shy. No matter how awful you think your photography is, someone will love your effort. Keep looking up!

Date/Planet	Sun ☉	Moon ☾	Mercury ☿	Venus ♀
Thu 12	rises5:14am sets7:15pm in	sets9:38am rises10:37pm in	rises4:37am sets6:21pm in	rises6:45am sets8:30pm in
Fri 13	rises5:14am sets7:15pm in	sets10:34am rises11:03pm in	rises4:28am sets6:14pm in	rises6:47am sets8:31pm in
Sat 14	rises5:15am sets7:15pm in	sets11:30am rises11:30pm in	rises4:21am sets6:07pm in	rises6:49am sets8:31pm in
Sun 15	rises5:16am sets7:15pm in	sets12:28pm in	rises4:14am sets6:01pm in	rises6:51am sets8:31pm in
Mon 16	rises5:17am sets7:14pm in	rises12:00am sets1:29pm in	rises4:08am sets5:56pm in	rises6:53am sets8:31pm in
Tue 17	rises5:18am sets7:14pm in	rises12:33am sets2:35pm in	rises4:02am sets5:51pm in	rises6:55am sets8:31pm in
Wed 18	rises5:19am sets7:14pm in	rises1:12am sets3:44pm in	rises3:57am sets5:47pm in	rises6:58am sets8:31pm in
Thu 19	rises5:20am sets7:14pm in	rises2:00am sets4:55pm in	rises3:53am sets5:44pm in	rises7:00am sets8:31pm in
Fri 20	rises5:21am sets7:13pm in	rises2:58am sets6:03pm in	rises3:49am sets5:41pm in	rises7:02am sets8:30pm in
Sat 21	rises5:22am sets7:13pm in	rises4:05am sets7:05pm in	rises3:45am sets5:39pm in	rises7:04am sets8:30pm in
Sun 22	rises5:23am sets7:13pm in	rises5:20am sets7:57pm in	rises3:43am sets5:37pm in	rises7:06am sets8:30pm in
Mon 23	rises5:23am sets7:12pm in	rises6:36am sets8:42pm in	rises3:40am sets5:36pm in	rises7:08am sets8:30pm in
Tue 24	rises5:24am sets7:12pm in	rises7:49am sets9:19pm in	rises3:38am sets5:35pm in	rises7:10am sets8:30pm in
Wed 25	rises5:25am sets7:11pm in	rises8:59am sets9:52pm in	rises3:37am sets5:34pm in	rises7:12am sets8:29pm in

Date/Planet	Mars ♂	Jupiter ♃	Saturn ♄
Thu 12	sets2:06am rises4:04pm in	rises10:49am sets10:55pm in	rises7:45am sets9:06pm in
Fri 13	sets2:02am rises4:00pm in	rises10:46am sets10:52pm in	rises7:42am sets9:02pm in
Sat 14	sets1:58am rises3:56pm in	rises10:42am sets10:48pm in	rises7:39am sets8:59pm in
Sun 15	sets1:54am rises3:52pm in	rises10:39am sets10:44pm in	rises7:35am sets8:55pm in
Mon 16	sets1:50am rises3:49pm in	rises10:36am sets10:41pm in	rises7:32am sets8:52pm in
Tue 17	sets1:46am rises3:45pm in	rises10:33am sets10:37pm in	rises7:28am sets8:48pm in
Wed 18	sets1:43am rises3:41pm in	rises10:30am sets10:34pm in	rises7:25am sets8:45pm in
Thu 19	sets1:39am rises3:38pm in	rises10:26am sets10:30pm in	rises7:22am sets8:41pm in
Fri 20	sets1:35am rises3:34pm in	rises10:23am sets10:27pm in	rises7:18am sets8:37pm in
Sat 21	sets1:32am rises3:31pm in	rises10:20am sets10:23pm in	rises7:15am sets8:34pm in
Sun 22	sets1:28am rises3:27pm in	rises10:17am sets10:20pm in	rises7:11am sets8:30pm in
Mon 23	sets1:25am rises3:24pm in	rises10:14am sets10:16pm in	rises7:08am sets8:27pm in
Tue 24	sets1:21am rises3:20pm in	rises10:11am sets10:13pm in	rises7:05am sets8:23pm in
Wed 25	sets1:18am rises3:17pm in	rises10:08am sets10:09pm in	rises7:01am sets8:19pm in

**Book your next meeting at the Merredin CRC!**

**Affordable room bookings - delicious catering options available**

110 Barrack St, Merredin 9041 1041 administration2@merredincrc.com



# MERIDIAN REGIONAL ARTS COMMUNITY MURAL

## By MERIDIAN REGIONAL ARTS

The community mural, painted on the side of the building known as Atkinsons of Merredin, owned by Leslie and Barrie Smith, is now in situ. It's looking magnificent.

The mural is a semi realistic depiction of Merredin in the early 1930's, looking from Barrack Street down Bates Street, painted by Jessie Spring and members of the

community.

We are finding that many a story can be told about the magnificent Duff's Hotel, that began its life as the Merredin Hotel, back in the early 1900's.

There is a newspaper article stating that Mrs Duff held a party on the balcony of the hotel, in 1907. Unfortunately, the hotel was pulled down around 1970.

There are so many differing

stories around the reason why this magnificent building was pulled down, that we are left pondering. What's your memory?

In the near future, thanks to the skills of Chloe Flockart, the mural will become interactive by the placement of a QR code - where the community, visitors and tourists will be able to access stories of the Merredin people and the town's history.

Thanks to DLGSC, Lotterywest and Shire of Merredin.



Merredin CRC are looking for preloved Christmas Trees that can be added to our Christmas Tree Forest.

Donations are welcome throughout the year.

**CHRISTMAS TREE ORPHANAGE**





# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## 2023

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>14 January</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<p>Merredin Fine Arts Society 9am-12pm</p> <p>Community Garden 8am</p> <p>Merredin Men's Shed 9.30am-5pm Ross 0417300893 Dennis 0411984123</p>	<p>All Saints Anglican Church (Combined Churches service) 10am</p>	<p>Boot-scooting 7pm at Cummins Theatre 9041 3005 (please leave a message), 0409172259, or see Lyn at the Post Office</p>	<p>Gentle Gym at the Senior Centre 2pm</p> <p>Merredin Men's Shed 2-5pm Ross 0417300893 Dennis 0411984123</p>	<p><b>WINNIE THE POOH DAY</b></p>  <p>Craft Group at the Seniors Centre 10am</p> <p>Wildflower society meeting 7pm old North Merredin primary school. Mal Harper 0437388292 Tracy Scott 90465 185</p>	<p>Merredin Fine Arts Society 9am-2pm</p> <p>Men's Shed 9.30am-5pm Ross 0417300893 Dennis 0411984123</p>	
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<p>Merredin Fine Arts Society 9am-12pm</p> <p>Community Garden 2pm</p> <p>Merredin Men's Shed 9.30am-5pm Ross 0417300893 Dennis 0411984123</p>	<p>Church of Christ (Combined Churches service) 10am</p>	<p>Boot-scooting 7pm at Cummins Theatre 9041 3005 (please leave a message), 0409172259, or see Lyn at the Post Office</p>	<p><b>JUST DO IT DAY</b></p>  <p>Gentle Gym at the Senior Centre 2pm</p> <p>Merredin Men's Shed 2-5pm Ross 0417300893 Dennis 0411984123</p>	<p>Craft Group at the Seniors Centre 10am</p> <p>Wildflower society meeting 7pm old North Merredin primary school. Mal Harper 0437388292 Tracy Scott 90465 185</p>	<p><b>AUSTRALIA DAY</b></p>  <p><b>Australia Day Breakfast 8-9am at Merredin CRC followed by Citizen of the Year Awards from 9am</b></p> <p>Australia Day Pool Party – FREE event at Merredin District Olympic Pool 12-6pm</p> <p>Merredin Fine Arts Society 9am-2pm</p> <p>Men's Shed 9.30am-5pm Ross 0417300893 Dennis 0411984123</p>	<p><b>NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC DAY</b></p> 
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1 February</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<p><b>INTERNATIONAL LEGO DAY</b></p>  <p>Merredin Fine Arts Society 9am-12pm</p> <p>Community Garden 2pm</p> <p>Merredin Men's Shed 9.30am-5pm Ross 0417300893 Dennis 0411984123</p>	<p>Uniting Church (Combined Churches service) 9am</p>	<p>Boot-scooting 7pm at Cummins Theatre 9041 3005 (please leave a message), 0409172259, or see Lyn at the Post Office</p>	<p>Gentle Gym at the Senior Centre 2pm</p> <p>Merredin Men's Shed 2-5pm Ross 0417300893 Dennis 0411984123</p>	<p>Craft Group at the Seniors Centre 10am</p> <p>Wildflower society meeting 7pm old North Merredin primary school. Mal Harper 0437388292 Tracy Scott 90465 185</p>	<p>Merredin Fine Arts Society 9am-2pm</p> <p>Men's Shed 9.30am-5pm Ross 0417300893 Dennis 0411984123</p>	<p><b>GOLDEN RETRIEVER DAY</b></p>  <p>Kids club, Ages 4-12, 3-5pm at Merredin Church of Christ, 17 Throssell Rd, gold coin donation 0429108241</p>

If you would like your community notice included, email it to [administration3@merredincrc.com](mailto:administration3@merredincrc.com)



# Tales from the Rails

By JANE PATRONI, SECRETARY

## Celebrating 130 Years of the Rail Reaching Merredin

2023 has arrived and what a big year it promises to be!

In 1893 the railway reached Merredin when two narrow gauge steel rails were laid where the town now stands. Yes, 130 years ago the face of the bush town changed forever, hastened by the activities of the gold discoveries at Southern Cross, Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie. To the aboriginal people, their way of life and access to their traditional lands would never be the same.

A rail centre was established in Merredin because of the availability of fresh water, obtained by the construction of a rock wall around Merredin Peak, channelling the water into the railway dam. From 1893 onwards water was pumped to

the railway yards and the tank on the stand. The tank bears an advertisement for "Kalgoorlie Bitter", a beer that was brewed in the Merredin Brewery. Merredin became an important junction for branch lines running north and south of the main east-west yards.

This year we are looking to celebrate the arrival of the rail to Merredin in different ways: none the least in continuing to provide a welcoming experience for our guests who call in to say "Hello!".

We invite the community to relive the former days of rail glory and witness the displays and artifacts that are on show. We invite you to tell us of your experiences with the railway in Merredin over the years.

Our volunteer members: *Graham and Wendy Alp (Patrons)*  
*Julie Nicoletti (Chair)*

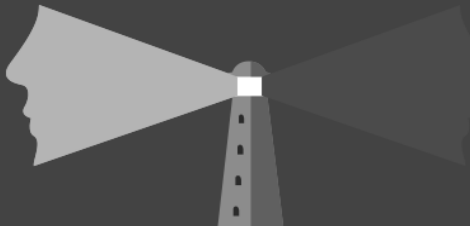
*Megan Simmonds (V/Chair)*  
*Jane Patroni (Secretary)*  
*Debbie Morris (Treasurer)*  
*Roy Butler, Kaye and Ross Duffield, Mal Harper, Marie Duncan, Gillian Ovans, Gwen Hobson, Ken Baldwin, Phill Kuhne.*

*We are continually grateful to other members of the Community and the Shire of Merredin who assist us to keep the doors open with their generous contributions.*


**Interested in trains, history, Merredin, meeting people??** If you've got a couple of hours to spare in the week, we would love to welcome you aboard... it's not hard, heaps of help given and the opportunity to be part of a great team.




For more information, please phone Jane (0417860046); email: merredinmuseum@gmail.com; or just call in!





**Beyond Now**  
A suicide safety planning app  
to keep you safe through tough times.



# SAVE THE DATE

Friday 10th February 2023



Department of  
Primary Industries and  
Regional Development

## Merredin CRC

will be hosting a

# THANK A VOLUNTEER STARGAZING SUNDOWNER

From 6pm, at the Burracoppin Hall  
(Free transport will be provided)

With special guests

**Peter Barrett - local astronomer**  
and

**Riley Johnston, astronomy guide**  
from Star Tracks Astro Events

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SHIRE OF  
**MERREDIN**  
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT

**RAMELIUS**  
RESOURCES



# Positive and Active Mentoring

**By REGIONAL MENS HEALTH**

Being a *male* is a matter of birth, being a man is a matter of age but being a positive and active *mentor* is a matter of choice, *he didn't tell me, he showed me.*

Wisdom can only be obtained through personal growth, ageing and the experiences we have in life. To me this means we can have a mature young man but not a wise one. I think this interpretation is important because it substantiates the vital role a positive and active mentor can play for us no matter what our age.

Who are our mentors? They can come from a pool of people, but are predominantly sourced from the following areas:

- someone older;
- for a bloke, dads are our first choice (92%). This is

interesting because society's demographics are changing. Research tells us that in 1960 10% of all kids were living away from their dads whereas by 2010 this had grown to 27% of all kids living away from their dads. This is a significant shift and one that puts additional pressure on the vital role of male mentoring;

- father figures, grandfathers, uncles, brothers, teachers or sporting coaches;

it can be someone who is not in your field of work or play, this can help gain a natural and external viewpoint.

When we are deciding what to do in life (whether it is day to day stuff or longer-term), talking to a mentor can help us with our decision making. This is important both in our personal life and our working and business careers.

A positive and active mentor:

- not only listens to what you're saying, but asks open ended and reflective questions;
- has opinions which you respect but acknowledges that you don't have to act on or agree with them;
- gives wisdom and perspective (lived experience);
- acts as a sounding board and confidant.

When making major decisions, talking through issues with a mentor is beneficial. Young blokes especially need to tell their stories to mentors. It is by this process that they can validate and question where they are at and where they are heading in life. It helps them to clarify their issues, thus cultivating independent thinking.

There is never a time in a man's life that he won't benefit from

having a positive and active mentor. Mentoring is about developing relationships, it takes time and sacrifice, it's a two-way street and everyone benefits. Blokes often have three types of people (mates) that we can spill our guts to. These usually come from the following categories:

- a peer;
- a partner;
- a mentor.

As blokes we need to identify who these people are. Ask yourself the question *who is my mentor?* This person may change through our life journey but remember *positive mentoring is rewarding and being an active mentor is our choice.*



## Fuel Tanker Driver - Merredin Depot

Liberty Oil have a proud history of truly independent fuel retail and distribution in Australia. Today, Liberty distributes hundreds of millions of litres of fuel a year, making the company one of the largest wholesalers operating right across Australia. Following a long-standing partnership with Viva Energy Australia Ltd, the company is commencing its next evolution as an independent wholesale subsidiary of Viva Energy.

Based in Merredin you will be a key team member, delivering from depots to rural and commercial customers. You will be working Monday to Friday on day shift with occasional weekend work.

**You will have;**

- HC licence and DG Licence and ideally a Safe Loading Passport (SLP).
- Working knowledge of AS/NZS 2809.3, AS/NZS 1596 and AS/NZS 3788
- A clean driving record and criminal record check and medical (including Drug & Alcohol) are requirement for the successful candidate.

We welcome applicants from diverse backgrounds, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply.

Apply today by emailing Brendan at [bwaight@libertyoil.com.au](mailto:bwaight@libertyoil.com.au) or better still you can call Brendan on 0427 368 758 to better understand the role and how it fits into his team

RM6905329

## Trevor Elliott

### Merredin Pet Cemetery

The pet cemetery is a place that provides a tranquil and pleasant resting place for your beloved pet, where you are welcome to visit as often as you like.

**Cost of Interment**  
 Normal site cost \$140  
 Larger sites—by negotiation  
 For further information contact  
 Merredin Community Resource Centre.

Merredin Community Resource Centre  
 Your local connection

110 Barrack Street, Merredin  
 Phone: 9041 1041  
 Email: [merredin@crc.net.au](mailto:merredin@crc.net.au)

# BE SKIN AWARE THIS SUMMER



## MEDIA RELEASE - CANCER COUNCIL WA

Cancer Council WA is encouraging adults in the Wheatbelt region to familiarise themselves with the common symptoms of skin cancer, with the majority (55-70%) of melanomas detected by themselves or their partners.

It is important to know your skin and what is normal for you, particularly if you are over 40 years of age. Skin cancers (including melanoma) accounts for the largest number of cancers diagnosed in Australia each year. Our latest data reveals that in 2019, 1587 people in WA were diagnosed with melanoma and sadly 145 people died from it.

We know people living in regional Australia have lower rates of five-year survival, compared with people living in cities, so we urge anyone in the

Wheatbelt experiencing a skin cancer symptom to visit their doctor, clinic nurse or Aboriginal health worker.

Common symptoms of skin cancer include:

- A new spot or mole on your skin
- A spot that is different from other spots on your skin
- Any crusty or non-healing sores
- Any spots, freckles or any moles changing in size (width), thickness (height), colour, or shape over a period of weeks to months.

It doesn't mean you've got skin cancer - often it turns out to be something less serious. But it is important to get checked. Getting our symptoms checked out and treated early means we can get back to the people we love and the things we love doing.

Visit <http://www.myuv.com.au/skincancer/> to find out how to check your skin for skin cancer.

For more information about skin cancer symptoms, visit [www.findcancerearly.com.au](http://www.findcancerearly.com.au)

For cancer information and support call 131120



Here in the Wheatbelt  
we LOVE our sport

CONTRIBUTE BY EMAILING PHOTOS AND ARTICLES TO  
[administration3@merredincrc.com](mailto:administration3@merredincrc.com)

**MERREDIN SUMMER SPORTS RESULTS**

Many summer sports are still on their Christmas/New Year/ school holiday break.

Sport results will return soon.

**Merredin Sport**

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**STEVE MARTIN MLC**  
MEMBER FOR THE AGRICULTURAL REGION



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 [stevemartinmlc.com.au](http://stevemartinmlc.com.au)

Authorised by S. Martin, Liberal Party (WA Division) Inc. 114 Federal Street, Narrogin WA 6312



We are still in need of rentals for our tenant base. If you would like more information about leasing your property - Contact us and we would be more than happy to help!  
[info@asktonym.com.au](mailto:info@asktonym.com.au) / 08 9574 2917

## FOR SALE



### FOR SALE - 17 Carrington Way - Offers Over \$385,000

New 3 x 2 Home with shed & pool! With an open plan family living feel, the lounge, dining and kitchen are the heart of this home, featuring timber look panel flooring and down lighting. Kitchen is complete with stylish black fixtures and subway tiles. Stainless steel appliances are featured as well. A talking point for this home would have to be the wide decked alfresco space. Semi enclosed section has been insulated and lighting is present throughout.

Call Christie Rennie on 0414 221 744 to discuss a viewing or details!



### FOR SALE - Lot 494 Haines Street - \$679,000!

7.6 acre property in Merredin Townsite – fantastic central location. To the front of the home is a gorgeous lawned area set behind a private fence and a paved sitting area with a bar for year-round entertaining. Inside you will find a formal entry hall leading to the lounge room on the left of the hallway at the end. The lounge room has a wood fire and the whole house is serviced by ducted air conditioning. To the rear of the lounge room is the kitchen and meals area and down the hall you will find the 3 bedrooms. Outside, there are 7 fully fenced paddocks with near new fences and equipped with solar powered electric fences. The 20m x 12m American barn style stables/shed area is bound to impress, along with plenty more!

Call Christie Rennie on 0414 221744 to discuss a viewing or details!



### FOR SALE - 55 Duff Street, Merredin - \$150,000 JUST LISTED!

3 x 1 cottage on a 1012m2 block. This home has a renovated kitchen and bathroom, open plan living area and good sized master bedroom.

Out the back is 3x lock up sheds for all your toys.

If you are after an affordable home or investment property this is well worth inspection.

Call Christie Rennie on 0414 221744 to discuss a viewing or details!



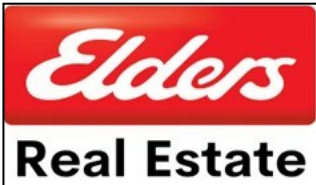
### FOR SALE - 10 Growden Street, Merredin \$110,000

Its not fancy - but it's cheap!

3 x 1 home in need of a bit of love and attention. Built in robe to master and bathroom with separate bath and shower. Kitchen has a built in pantry and room for a large fridge.

Sitting on a 1057m2 block there is plenty of room to add a shed or park your caravan.

Call Christie Rennie on 0414 221744 to discuss a viewing or details!



Phone—(08) 9041 6510  
 Fax—(08) 9041 6555  
 www.elders.com.au/merredin

Steve Gregory 0429 874 874  
 steve.gregory@elders.com.au

**44 Whitfield Way, Merredin**

**PRICE:** \$65,000  
**AGENT:** Elders Real Estate Merredin  
**CONTACT:** Steve Gregory 0429 874 874  
**Elders Property ID:** 300P101220

**LIFESTYLE BLOCK!**

Create the perfect lifestyle on this 1.28 acre block in the exclusive Whitfield Way. Located on the north edge of town, close enough to the business precinct while offering the peace and tranquility of a rural lifestyle. Surrounded by quality homes all on large blocks this is the best place to build your dream home with plenty of room for a large shed, pool or whatever else you wish for. This property presents great value at just \$65,000 so give Steve a call today! All enquiries to exclusive selling agents, ELDERS REAL ESTATE. Call Steve Gregory on 0429 874 874 to arrange your viewing. AVAILABLE 7 DAYS A WEEK!!



Beds



Bath



Parking

**56 South Street, Merredin**  
**\$190,000 - WEB ID 300P70322**

The lounge and kitchen is open plan with a split system air conditioner, built in wood fire and room for dining between the two. There are 3 bedrooms with an office/sleepout accessible from one of the bedrooms making it ideal to set up as a nursery or parents retreat. There is a semi-enclosed patio to the side and a patio off the back of the house with the back yard divided into two areas by a leafy green hedge. In front of the hedge is a nice grassed area for the kids to play.



**57 Endersbee Street, Merredin**  
**\$250,000 - WEB ID 300P69610**

Close to Merredin College this property is a perfect home for a young couple or small family ready to get into the market. The property boasts 3 bedrooms with built in robes in the main bedroom. It has a luxurious bathroom with double shower. Its spacious kitchen is separate to the living rooms. With a massive back yard and a big double garage attached to the house this is the perfect place to start your dream of being a home owner.



**1-3-5 Hay Street, Merredin**  
**\$150,000 - WEB ID 300P68320**

Calling all developers looking to build either residential homes or tourist development. The massive demand for rental accommodation of both short stay and long term is only getting bigger. These three freehold green title blocks are residential zoned but have Local Planning Scheme No.6 - Amendment No.6 discretionary approval allowing for tourist development. Ideal for building of group accommodation for large corporate companies or motel operators.



**13 Princess Street, Merredin**  
**\$225,000 - WEB ID 300P105488**

This fully renovated 3 bedroom family home is move-in ready with nothing left to do but enjoy! With a north facing aspect looking across bushland and open spaces you will love the peace and tranquility while enjoying a sunset beverage on the front timber deck. The rear yard offers plenty of room for the kids to play and is safely enclosed for the family pets while there is also large under cover area with built in brick BBQ for outdoor entertaining. There's a massive chook pen and room for a veggie garden.

